

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An airbag unit for a motor vehicle comprising:
 - a tubular gas generator for generating a filling gas for an airbag, the gas generator having a tube axis; and
 - a deformation element which is configured to interact with the gas generator and deform to allow the tubular gas generator to be displaced relative to the motor vehicle in the direction of the tube axis.
2. The airbag unit of Claim 1, further comprising a fastening element for tying the gas generator to the motor vehicle.
3. The airbag unit of Claim 1, further comprising guide members for guiding the tubular gas generator along a defined displacement path, wherein the guide members are engaged.
4. The airbag unit of Claim 2, further comprising a first guide member arranged on the fastening element and a second guide member located on the on the tubular gas generator and engaged with the first guide member.
5. The airbag unit of Claim 4, wherein the two guide members extend essentially in the direction of the tube axis of the tubular gas generator.
6. The airbag unit of Claim 4, wherein the first guide member is a long hole and the second guide member is a pin engaging into the long hole (20).

7. The airbag unit of claim 3, wherein the displacement path formed by the guide members points essentially away from a vehicle occupant located in the vehicle interior.
8. The airbag unit of one of Claim 3, wherein the first and/or the second guide member has at least one stop for limiting the displacement travel of the tubular gas generator in at least one direction.
9. The airbag unit of claim 1, wherein the deformation element is arranged in such a way that a displacement of the tubular gas generator is prevented when the gas generator is subjected to a force in the direction of the tube axis which is lower than a predetermined force.
10. The airbag unit of claim 2, wherein the deformation element is arranged between the fastening element and the tubular gas generator.
11. The airbag unit of claim 10, wherein the deformation element is arranged so that the tubular gas generator is braced between a stop and the fastening element.
12. The airbag unit of claim 1, wherein the gas generator is positioned so that the tube axis points essentially in the direction of the motor vehicle interior.
13. The airbag unit of claim 1, further comprising a housing for receiving further components of the airbag unit, in particular a diffuser and/or a gas bag, is arranged on the tubular gas generator.